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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Peter Jurgen Rohl

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12/21/2005

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EXAMINER

CRAIG, DWIN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2123

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/681,838	Applicant(s) ROHL, PETER JURGEN	
	Examiner Dwin M. Craig	Art Unit 2123	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/6/2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-5 and 7-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 have been presented for reconsideration based on Applicant's arguments and amended claim language.

Specification

2. The Examiner thanks the Applicant for amending independent claim 11 and the Examiner withdraws the previous objection to the same.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments presented in the 10/6/2005 responses have been fully considered. The Examiner's response is as follows.

3.1 As regards Applicant's arguments concerning the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 6 under 35 USC § 102(e). The Applicant unpersuasively argued that *Beauchamp* does not anticipate claims 1, 2 and 6. The Examiner respectfully traverses Applicant's arguments. *Beauchamp* discloses the use of a master model; Abstract "*A parametric geometric representation (i.e., a master model) of the article is created in terms of geometric using a computer program*", and translating a context model into an engineering analysis model that is compatible with an engineering analysis program; Col. 6 lines 5-9, "*Examples of manufacturing analysis methodologies include models of sheet metal forming, process models of casting process, forging processes models, assembly tolerance models, etc.*" The Examiner respectfully directs the Applicant's to figures 3-7. *Beauchamp* meets the call of claims 1, 2 and 6 and discloses the required teachings such that the metes and bounds of Applicant's expressly claimed limitations are anticipated by the cited reference.

3.2 As regards Applicant's arguments concerning the rejections of claims 3-5 and 7-10 under 35 USC § 103(a), the Examiner withdraws the rejections of claims 3-5 and 7-10. The Applicant is correct that *Beachamp* is not available for obviousness type rejections because of the 103(c) shield.

3.3 As regards the Applicants arguments regarding the rejections of claims 11-20 under 35 USC § 103(a). Applicant persuasively argued on page 10 of the 10/6/2005 responses that, "*This reference describes only "tooth meshing" (see the passage relied upon by the Examiner), which bears no relation whatsoever to a finite element mesh.*" The Examiner withdraws the 35 USC § 103(a) rejections of claims 11-20.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1, 2 and 6 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by 6,434,441 Beauchamp et al.

4.1 As regards Independent **Claim 1** the *Beauchamp et al.* reference discloses *Automatically analyzing an article of manufacture comprising; (Abstract), a) providing a master model and a context model specification; (Figure 3 Block 2 and Col. 4 line 10 “Create a parametric geometrical representation of the part (Master Model)...), b) creating a context model from said master model and said context model specification; (Figure 3 block 1, Col. 3 lines 62-65), c) translating said context model into an engineering analysis model compatible with an engineering analysis program; (Col. 4 line 16 defined as a computer model/representation usable within a Computer Aided Design Software, (commercially available examples of which are Unigraphics, ProE, IDEAS, etc.)), d) executing said engineering analysis program to generate a performance estimate from said engineering analysis model and; (Figure 4 block 215 Col. 6 lines 45-65 and Col. 9 lines 42-50), e) optionally modifying said master model to improve said performance estimate. (Col. 10 lines 14-28).*

4.2 As regards dependent **Claim 2** the *Beauchamp et al.* reference discloses context models and associative copies from the Master Model (**Figure 4 items 213 and 214**).

4.3 As regards dependent **Claim 6** the *Beauchamp et al.* reference discloses the functional equivalent of a macro file (**Figure 3 Block 7**).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 11-20 are allowed.

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5.1 Claims 3-5 and 7-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5.2 The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As regards independent claim 11, the following limitations, in combination with other limitations are neither anticipated nor made obvious by the prior art, *“creating a context model from said geometric description and said CAD model by trimming, tagging and chunking;”* in combination with *“executing an engineering analysis program using said mesh to generate a performance estimate.”*

Conclusion

6. Claims 1-20 have been presented for reconsideration. Claims 11-20 are allowed. Claims 3-5 and 7-10 are objected to. Claims 1, 2 and 6 are rejected.

6.1 **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

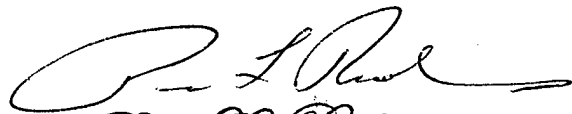
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6.2 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dwin M. Craig whose telephone number is (571) 272-3710. The examiner can normally be reached on 10:00 - 6:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo P. Picard can be reached on (571) 272-3749. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DMC


Paul L. Rodriguez 12/16/05
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2125